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(54) **Adaptive method for allocation of random access memory to procedures having differing priorities**

(57) A data processing system (10) includes an adaptive method for allocation of RAM (20) as between procedures having both higher and lower priorities. The RAM (20) is provided with first and second portions (26,24), the first portion (26) for assignment to higher priority procedures and the second portion (24) for assignment to lower priority procedures, higher priority procedures being able to access also the second portion (24) of RAM (20). The adaptive method comprises the steps of: responding to a request (50) for allocation of RAM (20) to a higher priority procedure by determining (52) if RAM (20) is available from the first portion (26) and, if not, allocating RAM (20) from the second

portion (24) to the higher priority procedure. The procedure enables allocation of RAM (20) from the second portion (24) to a lower priority procedure where available RAM (20) in the first portion (26) exceeds a first threshold level (A). The system continues the enablement until the available RAM (20) in the first portion (26) falls below a lower, second threshold level (B) at which point, the allocation to the lower priority procedure is inhibited. The inhibition of allocation of RAM (20) from the second portion (24) to a lower priority procedure continues until the available RAM (20) in the first portion (26) again exceeds the first threshold level (A).

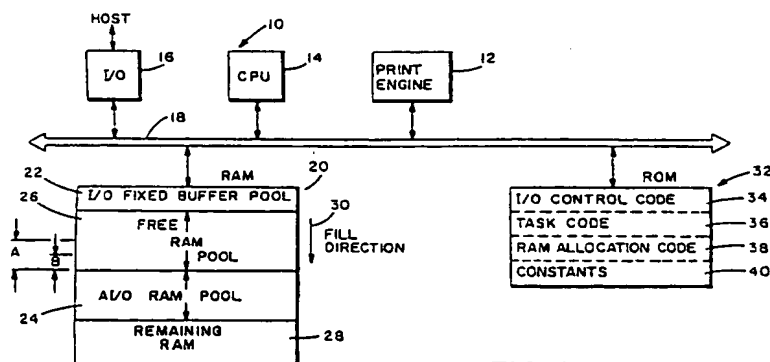


FIG. 1



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 93 11 8584

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
A	INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING SYSTEMS, ARLINGTON, TEXAS, MAY 20 - 24, 1991, no. CONF. 11, 20 May 1991, INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, pages 336-343, XP000221872 KRUEGER P ET AL: "THE STEALTH DISTRIBUTED SCHEDULER" * page 339, right-hand column, line 41 - page 340, left-hand column, line 27 *	1	G06F9/46
A	RESEARCH DISCLOSURE, no. 285, January 1988, page 13 XP000045245 "ENHANCED 'SET RESERVE' COMMAND FOR STORAGE ABOVE 16 MEGABYTES" * the whole document *	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25 July 1996	Examiner Michel, T
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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